



News From

JACK DOYLE

MONROE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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DOYLE ANNOUNCES LARGEST PARK EXPANSION IN MORE THAN 30 YEARS

Greece Canal Park Acquisition of Nearly 90 Acres is Largest Since 1969

Monroe County Executive Jack Doyle today announced the largest acquisition of parkland in the County Parks System since 1969. The 88-acre purchase of the former Harris Seed parcel will be added to Greece Canal Park, effectively extending the park's canal frontage from its existing boundary westward to Manitou Road.

"Parkland is an invaluable resource for the future and I am very pleased that we have the opportunity to purchase this important parcel," said Doyle. "It would have been short-sighted to pass up this opportunity to expand this increasingly popular park. This land is an ideal fit with the existing park and it will offer the county many future possibilities for active or passive recreation."

Initially, the county had sought a land swap arrangement with the current property owner in order to keep a portion of the park from becoming isolated by a proposed new housing development on the parcel. These discussions eventually led to an agreement to purchase the land outright and negotiations are underway to complete the sale.

After this acquisition, Greece Canal Park's acreage will go from 577 acres to 665 total acres. The County Executive will budget for the purchase of this parcel within the county's annual Capital Improvement Plan. The agreed upon value of the acreage has been set at \$600,000.

The 88-acre site is bordered on the east by the park; on the west by Manitou Road; on the South by the Erie Canal; and on the north by a privately held parcel. The County Executive and Parks Department have not earmarked the parcel for any specific park uses at this time, however, the land's proximity to the canal would lend itself well to both passive and active recreation use.

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“Greece Canal Park is very popular among those who live in this area and with other county residents who are beginning to discover its expanded facilities and unique atmosphere on the canal,” said County Legislator Bill Reilich (District 19 – Greece/Gates). “I am very proud to represent the area surrounding this park and I support County Executive Doyle’s vision for future expansion by purchasing this significant parcel along the historic Erie Canal.”

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